1. (amended) A sample processing container comprising:

a container body having an accommodating part for accommodating a sample therein, a front engagement part arranged at a front of the accommodating part and a rear engagement part arranged at a rear of the accommodating part; and

a lid body whereas at least a part thereof is curved, the lid body having a front side and a rear side, the rear side of the lid body being provided with a rear engagement member which is engageable with the rear engagement part of the container body and the front side of the lid body being provided with a rearfront engagement member which is engageable with the front engagement part of the container body;

wherein engagement of the front and rear engagement members of the lid body with the front and rear engagement parts of the container body respectively allows the lid body to be fitted to the container body and causes the lid body to be elastically deformed into either a plane state or a reduced-curved state in which a degree of curvature of the lid body is reduced; and

wherein releasing the engagement of the front engagement member of the lid body with the front engagement part of the container body allows the lid body to be restored elastically, so that the front side of the lid body is separated from the container body.

4. (amended) The container according to claim 2[or 3], wherein

the front engagement member of the container body is capable of swinging about an axis extending in the left-and-right direction, and thus the front engagement member can be displaced in the front-and-rear direction by a swing action of the front engagement member.

5. (amended) The container according to any one of claims 2 to 4, wherein

at least a part of gap defined between the front engagement member and the immovable member of the container body is exposed upward without being covered with the lid body when the lid body is fitted to the container body.

9. (amended) The container according to claim 7 or 8, wherein:

the lid body is formed so as to be a generally flat plate when the lid body is fitted to the container body;

the front part of the lid body is divided into three portions by two slits extending in the front-and-rear direction, an intermediate one of the three portions forming the second movable part shaped to be substantially flat, left and right ones of the three portion forming the first movable part shaped to be curved; and

the rear part of the lid body, which has no slit formed therein, forms the base part.

10. (amended) The container according to any one of claims 7 to 9, wherein:

the front engagement part of the container body has:

a front wall defining the front side of the accommodating part of the container body; and

and a front engagement member arranged in front of the front wall so that a gap is formed between the front wall and the front engaging member;

the disengagement member is wedge-shaped and is formed on an under face of the second movable part; and

upon depressing the wedge-shaped disengagement member into the gap between the front wall of the accommodating part and the front engagement member, the wedge-shaped

disengagement member displaces the front engagement member, whereby the engagement of the front engagement member of the first movable part with the front engagement part of the container body is released.

11. (amended) The container according to any one of claims 8 to 10, wherein the front engagement member of the container body is capable of swinging about an axis extending in the left-and-right direction, and thus the front engagement member can be displaced in the front-and-rear direction by a swing action of the front engagement member.

12. (amended) The container according to any one of claims 8 to 11, wherein:

the disengagement member is formed on an under face of the second movable part and has a slant face; and

when the slant face of the disengagement member butts against the front engagement member of the container body and the disengagement member moves downward, the front engagement member is displaced forward by the slant face, whereby the engagement of the front engagement member of the first movable part with the front engagement part of the container body is released.

16. (amended) The container according to claim 14 or 15, wherein at least a part of gap defined between the front engagement member and the immovable member of the container body is exposed upward without being covered with the lid body when the lid body is fitted to the container body.

20. (amended) The container according to claim 18 or 19, wherein

the disengagement member is connected to the movable part so as to be rotatable about an axis extending in the left-and-right direction, and

wherein upon depressing the disengagement member downward, the disengagement member displaces the front engagement member of the container body in the front-and-rear direction due to a rotation of the disengagement member.

21. (amended) The container according to any one of claims 13 to 20, wherein the front engagement member of the container body is capable of swinging about an axis extending in the left-and-right direction, and thus the front engagement member can be displaced in the front-and-rear direction by a swing action of the front engagement member.

22. (amended) The container according to any one of claims 13 to 20, wherein the lid body is provided with a pair of the immovable parts, and the movable part is arranged between the immovable parts.

25. (amended) A container body forming the container according to any one of claims 1 to 24, the container body comprising:

a container body having an accommodating part for accommodating a sample therein;

a front engagement part arranged at a front of the accommodating part; and

a rear engagement part arranged at a rear of the accommodating part,

wherein the front engagement part has a front engagement member extending in a left-and-right direction and capable of displacement in a front-and-rear direction.

26. (amended) A lid body forming the container according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the lid body is in the from of a generally flat plate, said lid body comprising:

a base part arranged on the rear side of the lid body, the base part having a rear engagement member formed on a rear side thereof; and

first and second movable parts connected in parallel to a front side of the base part with respect to a left-and-right direction, the first movable part being curved, the second movable part being substantially flat;

wherein a front side of the first movable part is provided with a front engagement member, and a frond side of the second movable part is provided with a wedge-shaped member having a slant face.

27. (amended) A lid body forming the container according to any one of claims 7 to 12, wherein the lid body is in the form of a generally flat plate whereas at least a part thereof is curved, and wherein the a rear side of the lid body is provided with a rear engagement member and the front side of the lid body is provided with a front engagement member.

28. (amended) A lid body forming the container according to any one of claims 13 to 24, wherein the lid body is substantially box-shaped, said lid body comprising:

a base part formed on the rear side of the lid body; and

movable and immovable parts connected in parallel to a front side of the base part with respect to a left-and-right direction, the movable part being curved, the immovable part being not substantially curved,

wherein the immovable part is provided with a front engagement member.